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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/586,342	07/14/2006	Yasuhiro Okita	070456-0120	2795
20277	7590	08/19/2008	EXAMINER	
MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP			ADDISU, SARA	
600 13TH STREET, N.W.			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096			3724	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/19/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/586,342	Applicant(s) OKITA ET AL.
	Examiner SARA ADDISU	Art Unit 3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 May 2008.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 14 July 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/0256/06)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 5/14/08. Currently, claims 1-9 are pending in this application.

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "pair of ridges reaching said chamfer, the pair of ridges are on the apex of said protrusion..." must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner,

the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

- claim 1, lines 10-11 recites “..a pair of ridges reaching said chamfer, the pair of ridges are on the apex of said protrusion...”.

Further review of the Specification and figures, show the chamfer being (7) (also see Specification, page 4, lines 25-26 and page 13, line 4) and the pair of ridges as being (6b & 6c) (specification, page 11, line 12). Given this fact and looking at figures 2 and 3) the ridges 6b and 6c do not actually reach the chamfer (7).

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- claim 1, lines 10-11 recites "..a pair of ridges reaching said chamfer, the pair of ridges are on the apex of said protrusion...".

Further review of the Specification and figures, show the chamfer being (7) (also see Specification, page 4, lines 25-26 and page 13, line 4) and the pair of ridges as being (6b & 6c) (specification, page 11, line 12). Given this fact and looking at figures 2 and 3) the ridges 6b and 6c do not actually reach the chamfer (7). For the purpose of this Office Action, Examiner interprets it to mean "a pair of ridges directed towards the nose of the insert".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-9, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi (USP 5,044,839), in view of Kanada et al. (USP 6,612,786) and further in view of Mizutani (USP 5,707,187).

TAKAHASHI teaches an insert having an upper surface with an apical angle part and having a polygonal shape in top view and forming an edge and a chip breaker (7), said chip breaker has a substantially symmetrical shape with respect to a section bisecting the apical angle of said apical angle part, and has a protrusion (6) and a flat part (3a: with shear angle of 0 degrees) provided between said protrusion and said apical angle part ('839, figures 1 and 11). TAKAHASHI also teaches a pair of arcuate ridges (R1 & R2: see figure below) on the apex of said protrusion (6) directed towards the nose of the insert. Please refer to attachment I submitted with the previous Office Action dated 2/14/08, page 10, for the detailed explanation of how TAKAHASHI reads on the angle (X) formed by the tangential line of the arcuate ridge at a point bisecting the arcuate ridge of the protrusion and a bisector of the apical angle. Regarding claims 1, 5 and 6, TAKAHASHI discloses the claimed invention (i.e. ridge length, distance and height difference of the forward end of said apical angle part and first intersection (P), i.e. the height of the chip breaker) except for height difference being in the range of at least 0.02 mm and not more than 0.5 mm or the distance being between 0.1 mm - 2 mm or line segment ration as claimed. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to vary ridge length (depending on the size of the insert), distance from the corner and the height of the chip breaker depending on

the application of the tool and the thickness of the insert (as evidenced by De Beaupre et al., US Pub. No. 2003/0063955, paragraph 22, which states "The actual height of the chip breaker will depend on the overall size of the cutting insert and the intended application"), because it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art.

Please note although TAKAHASHI fails to teach an indexable insert, it is old and well known to have an indexable insert for the purpose of increasing the number of cutting edges.

However, TAKAHASHI fails to teach the insert being prepared by bonding a superhard sintered body (with a surface roughness of 0.1-0.5 μ m) containing cubic boron nitride to at least the upper surface of an apical angle part of the insert body. TAKAHASHI also fails to teach a chamfer/land being formed on the intersection between the upper surface and the side surface.

KANADA ET AL. teaches an insert having a hard sintered polycrystalline body (11) containing a cubic crystal boron nitride (CBN) bonded to the upper surface of an apical angle part of the insert body ('786, figure 1 and col. 1, lines 8-11). KANADA ET AL. also teaches the surface roughness on the rake face of the tool ranges from 0.1 μ m to 0.5 μ m according to the average roughness (Rz) of the ten point system ('786, col. 2, lines 20-23). Furthermore, KANADA ET AL. teaches another aspect of the invention where a coated layer is formed on the surface of the polycrystalline hard sintered body by a chemical or physical vapor deposition, such that the wear at the ridge of the cutting

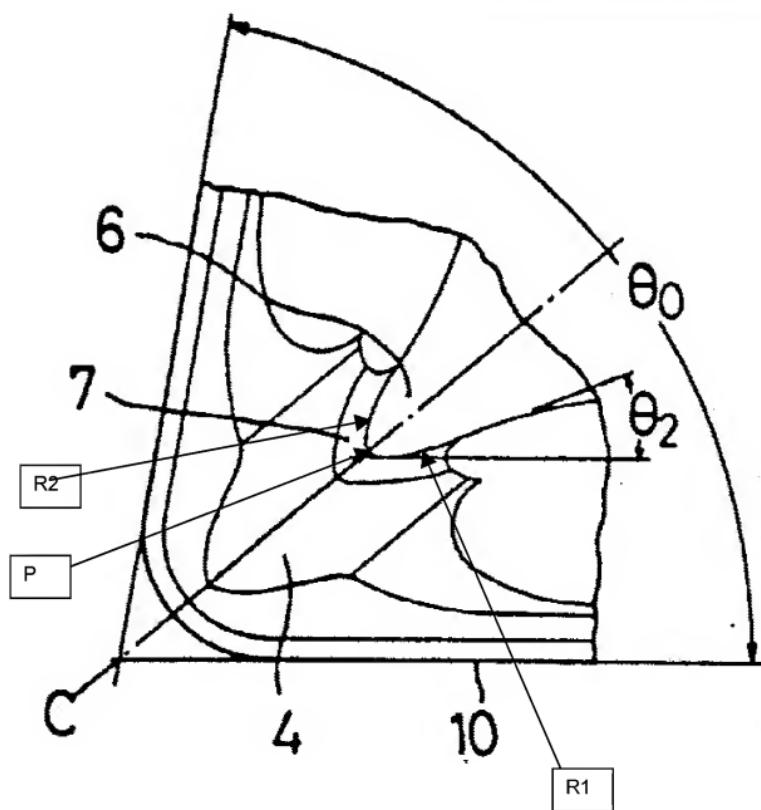
edge is reduced thereby, so that the roughness on the finished surface of the work piece may be improved, and the life of the tool may be lengthened ('786, col. 6, lines 30-35). Furthermore, KANADA ET AL. teaches that it is preferable that the coated layer comprises at least one kind element selected from groups comprising elements of 4a, 5a and 6a groups corresponding to the periodic table and elements of Al, Si and B nitride and it is also preferable that the coated layer comprises at least one kind compound selected from nitride, carbide and oxide being at least one kind of metals selected from said groups and solid solution of nitride, carbide and oxide ('786, col. 14, lines 52-60) KANADA ET AL. also teaches a negative land (14) of 65 degrees or more to 125 degrees or less ('786, figure 2 and col. 2, lines 30-33).

MIZUTANI teaches an indexable insert having a metal base made of cemented carbide, and a cutting edge consisting of a sintered CBN compact and a flat drag type cutting edge which are brazed to the metal base or bonded thereto by integral sintering ('185, figures 3A & 3b). MIZUTANI also teaches a negative land/chamfer having an angle (θ) of 30-45 degrees (thus meets the limitation 15 to no more than 45 degrees claimed in claim 3) and a width (L) of 0.05 to 0.40 mm (thus meets the limitation 0.02mm to no more than 0.2mm claimed in claim 4) ('185, figures 19 & 20 and abstract).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify TAKAHASHI such that it has a hard sintered

polycrystalline body (11) containing a cubic crystal boron nitride (CBN) bonded to the upper surface of an apical angle part , as taught by KANADA ET AL. for the purpose of enabling cutting with high precision ('786, col. 3, lines 28-30). It would have also been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify TAKAHASHI such that its surface roughness on the rake face (i.e. flat surface and chamfer) ranges from 0.1 μ m to 0.5 μ m, as taught by KANADA ET AL. for the purpose of prolonging the tool life of the cutting tool ('786, col. 2, lines 20-27).Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify TAKAHASHI such that it has a negative land/chamfer (having an angle and width as stated above), as taught by MIZUTANI for the purpose of having excellent cutting performance and the tool life can be extended ('185, abstract and col. 1, lines 22-25 & col. 2, lines 16-21 & 55-58).

The modified device of TAKAHASHI discloses the claimed invention (i.e. an insert with a chamfer) except for the width of the chamfer being 0.02mm – 0.2 mm). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to vary the chamfer/land width depending on the application of the tool (as evidenced by Johnson, USP 5,876,160, col. 1, lines 58-62, which states "varying width of cutting edge land is not unknown in the metal cutting art"), because it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art.



Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sara Addisu at (571) 272-6082. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Monica Carter can be reached on (571) 272-4475. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sara Addisu
(571) 272-6082
8/14/08

/Boyer D. Ashley/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3724